



**JEWISH COMMUNITY
RELATIONS COUNCIL**
MINNESOTA & THE DAKOTAS

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February 21, 2023
30 Shevat 5783

Representative Cheryl Youakim
Representative Ron Kresha
Education Finance Committee
Minnesota House of Representatives
State Office Building
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Youakim and Lead Kresha:

Thank you for the opportunity to weigh in on HF1102 (Rep. Clardy), a bill that extends school counseling services to students enrolled in grades K-6 in nonpublic and tribal contract schools in Minnesota.

Over the past several years, our nonpublic schools serving Jewish students have been under extreme stress, specifically the impact of the rise of antisemitism in Minnesota and throughout our country which has been devastating for many of our students.

Additionally, all students need access to school counseling and mental health services – this isn't a bill about schools but is a student-centered bill and ensures our students receive early intervention and consistency in services.

Lastly, as you may know, many of our students move from public to nonpublic schools and *vice versa*. By extending school counseling and mental health services to grades K-6, students will continue to receive consistency of services when and if they change schools.

I encourage the committee to support and pass HF1102 during the 2023 Legislative Session.

Sincerely,

Ethan Roberts, J.D.
Deputy Executive Director

cc: Members of the House Education Finance & Policy Committee